letters, *b*, *c*, *d*, *e*, *f* and *g* in terms of *a* where *a* represents the biggest community in the State. If you carry on the series, you will get *x* over *a*, over 2 *a*, 3 *a*, 4 *a*, 5 *a*, 6 *a*, 7 *a*, 8 *a* 9 *a*, 10 *a*, 11 *a* and so on, if you total it up and divide all these you will get a very small fraction. I regret very much that that cannot be accepted because it is unworkable. You assume that every human being is an exact replica of every other human being in capacity, in education, in training, in character. That is not os. So long as human nature is a very variable quantity, I regret it is not possible to apply to it terms of strict mathematical exactitude.

6. Registry of lands.

MR. C. A. ANUMANTHAKUDI MIRA ROWTHER (*Member, Peermade taluk*) said that the *tarisu* lands in the Peermade taluk should, as far as possible, be registered at low rates of *taravila* for raising paddy and other indigenous crops. The system of registering huge blocks of thousand and two thousand acres to companies should not be encouraged. Lands might on the other hand be granted to individual applicants in blocks not exceeding 5 acres each.

In case the lands in the cardamom hills could not be assigned in the near future, all lands resumed by the Sirkar for default in payment of land tax and all other available lands should be thrown open for registry. They will, in that case, be an additional source of revenue to the Sirkar. The lands in the Peermade and Periyar pakuthies fit for cardamom cultivation should also be registered. Another suggestion made by the member was that the lands adjoining cardamom estates should be registered in the names of the estate owners for building houses, cooly lires, store-houses etc. The member urged in conclusion that the Urumpikara reserve in the Peruvanthanam pakuthi should be disafforested and thrown open to registry.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Anumantakudi Mira Rowther, the whole question of registration of cardamom lands is standing over for the time being. I will tell you the reason why. It has been the experience of Government that various people from outside Travancore came and obtained plots of cardamom land here and they defaulted in the payment of revenue and disappeared over the border. Government find it impossible to realise their dues. As you are aware, communications in the cardamom lands are now being improved and when the road system is completed, the land will be thrown open to registry on a systematic method so as to ensure that the people who cultivate these lands will actually settle on the lands and not be only occasional visitors to come and gather the crop when it is ready for the gathering.

In regard to the Urumpikara Reserve, I told the representative of the cardamom hills last year that I would go and inspect the place in company with the Conservator of Forests and the Land Revenue Commissioner and see whether the land can suitably and properly be thrown open for registry. I shall make an endeavour to inspect it before we meet again, and then we shall decide whether it could be thrown open for registry.

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The member submitted that the registry should be made to the natives of the land.

DEWAN : I will come and inspect it.

7. Land registry in Devicolam.

MR. N. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Member, Devicolam taluk*) pointed out how with the development of means of communication, Devicolam had begun to attract the attention of people elsewhere in the State and how the question of registry of lands in the Division had assumed an important aspect. He proposed to deal with the question on the present occasion under three heads *viz.*, (1) registry of lands in the Pallivasal side, (2) relaxation of the prohibition order concerning cardamom areas, and (3) permanent registry of lands in Devicolam.

As regards the first point, he stated that there were about 25,000 acres of unregistered land on either side of the new Neriamangalam-Pallivasal road. This area was noted for its fertility, the soil being suited not only for the cultivation of cardamom but also of a variety of other products. It would be a very wise step if this vast area was divided into small blocks and registered to native cultivators.

In regard to the second subject, the member said that it was by an order dated the 22nd October 1920 that Government had prohibited the further registry of lands in the so-called cardamom area. But the *raison d'etre* of that order had long ago disappeared. In 1920 the cultivators of the cardamom lands were mainly natives of the adjoining British districts. The cultivation of cardamom was itself losing ground at the time on account of the prevalance of a pest, which attacked the plants. Neither of these conditions, however, held good at the present time. There were many Travancoreans now eager to get lands in the cardamom area. As for the pest, it had disappeared completely. To add to this, the price of cardamom had gone very high ranging from Rupees 40 to Rupees 50 per tulam. Having regard to these circumstances, the prohibition order should be relaxed as early as practicable and cardamom lands should be thrown open for registry. It should at the same time be declared that these lands should not be registered to non-Travancoreans. The *taravila* might also be fixed at Rs. 25 per acre, the rate at which cardamom lands were registered before the prohibition order.

In regard to the third question, *viz.*, permanent assignment of lands in Devicolam, the member said that lands in Devicolam were given only on annual *Kuthakapattom* lease. The precarious nature of this tenure made the occupants reluctant to make any exertions for the improvement of the lands. Some of the permanent residents in the place, such as vakils, found it extremely difficult to secure permanent abodes. In order to obviate these difficulties the member suggested that the *Kuthakapattom* lands now in the occupation of different persons might be registered to them on permanent tenure.

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